

Docket No. 03-03 US

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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) In a magnetic resonance apparatus for study of a sample, said apparatus comprising the environment surrounding said sample wherein said environment is characterized by a first value of magnetic susceptibility, an amorphous composition comprising an amorphous matrix, a metal ion selected from the group consisting of  $Gd^{3+}$ ,  $Fe^{+3}$  and  $Mn^{+2}$ , and a ligand, said composition having a value of magnetic susceptibility substantially equal to said first value at cryogenic temperatures.
2. (original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said ligand binds said metal ion and effects solubility thereof in said amorphous matrix.
- 3 (original) The composition of claim 2, wherein said metal ion is  $Gd^{3+}$  and is in the form of  $Gd(Lg)_3$  or, in the alternative, in the form of  $Gd(ACAc)_3$ , wherein Ac is acetylacetone, and Lg is 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-3, 5-heptanedionate.
4. (original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said amorphous matrix comprises epoxy resin.
5. (canceled).
6. (canceled).
7. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is characterized by said value of induced magnetization equal to that of another selected material at said cryogenic temperatures for exposure of both said materials to said applied magnetic field.
8. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said value of magnetic susceptibility is zero.
9. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein said selected value of magnetic susceptibility is reached at a selected temperature below substantially 77°K. 77K.

**Docket No. 03-03 US**

10. (original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said metal ion is  $Gd^{+3}$ .

11 -19. (canceled).